A New News-Book:

Or, Occurrences

Forreign and Domestick,

Impartially Related.

Saturday, April 23. 1681.

Rome, March 29.

HIs Holiness is most intent upon the grand Business of a Pope, that is, in scraping together what Money he can; In order to which, he has required an exact Account of the Revenues of the *Apostolick Chamber*, (for so he calls his *Treasury*, tho sure, *Peter*, whose Successor he boasts himself, had little occasion for such an Office, when he declar'd, *Silver and Gold have I none*) He has likewise caus'd a Review of the Accounts of the Prior of *Vecchi*, during the time he was Lieutenant General of the *Gallies* of the Church, in the Popedome of *Alexander* the *7th*, having a design to make him restore 20 Thousand Crowns, then received by him, or his appointment. Seignior *Pillastri*, Commissary of the Chamber, is always suggesting to the *Old Father*, new means to recover Revenues that have been Alien'd; and since he continues so severe in calling over the Accounts of the *Nuncio's*, 'tis believed he will go further, and enforce likewise the Nephews, (or if you please Bastards) of the Popes his Predecessors, to Account for the Benefices which they received, and the Moneys in their Administration, whereby a mighty Mass of Treasure may be brought to his Coffers. Here have been several Gentlemen lately Assassinated in the Night, which exasperates the people against the *French*; for if any person be kill'd or wounded, they attribute it to them. His Holiness has condemn'd and forbidden a Book, Intituled, *The History of General Councils*, written by Dr. *Edw. Richer*, Professor of Divinity in the *Sorbon* Colledge at *Paris*. *Christina* Queen of *Sweden*, has acquitted the Pope of the Pension of 12 Thousand Crowns *per Ann.* which he allowed her during the late War, when her proper Revenue was interrupted. The *Foolish Cunning-Man*, that Predicted the Popes Death, whom formerly we mentioned, is with much ado got out of Prison, and 'tis Believ'd, will cast his *Schemes* more warily another time. In the last Audience that the *French* Ambassador had with the Pope, he told his Holiness, that his Master and his Holiness were already *Agreed*, The Pope not to part with any thing of his Spiritual pretensions, and the King not to relinquish any of his Temporal ones; and that as he was confident his Holiness would not invade the latter, so he could assure him, his Master would not infringe the former; and therefore he could not imagine any ground of difference between them.

Madrid, April 3. The differences between this Court and *Portugal*, about the Isle of St. *Gabriel*, have much Alarm'd our Council, insomuch that the Cavalry that are Quartered in *Castile* and *Galicia*, have received Orders to March to *Badajos*, on the Frontiers of *Portugal*; but the Marquess *De Giovenazzo* Prince of *Calamaco*, is appointed to go in Quality of an Ambassador Extraordinary to the Prince Regent of *Portugal*, and is to take a good round Sum of money with him, so that 'tis hoped Matters may be Adjusted.

London, April 22. His Majesty has been pleased to grant to Dr. *John Joachim Becher*, and *Henry Searle* Esq. the sole Benefit of making Pitch and Tarr out of *Sea-Coal*, and they are in such a forwardness, that several Furnaces are now setting up nigh the Water side for that purpose; and they say, that they shall be able to vend the same half as cheap as it is at present: And likewise the same Gentlemen have the sole Benefit of a new Invented Engine, for the Raising and throwing out of water, in very great quantities, from the Extreamest parts of Pits and Mines.

Mr. *Sampson*, one of the *Irish* Evidences, walking in the *Stocks-Market* near *Cheapside*, *Saturday* the 16 instant, discovered Quarter-Master *Eley*, who was accused, and a Bill found against him for High Treason, for carrying

rying on the Plot with the Earle of *Tyrone*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, for the reducing the same to the Obedience of the See of *Rome*, and into the possession of the *French* King; and Mr. *Langhorn* following him, observed he had a mind to shuffle away, but though he were all alone, he quickly seized him, and carried him before Sir *Robert Clayton*, and accused him of High-Treason, giving a brief Account that the grand Jury at *Westminster* had found a Bill against him for the same; he alledged, that he had prepared a Writ of Error for the discharging the said Indictment with Order, that the same should be tryed in *Ireland*; but nothing of that Nature appearing, Sir *Robert Clayton* committed him for High-Treason to *Newgate*; and tho he impudently boasted he should be fetcht out before night, we do not hear any thing to the contrary, but he is forced still to continue his Lodging there.

Towards the close of the last week, a sudden Fire broke out at *Bilston*, a small Town in *Staffordshire*, and increased with that impetuosity, that in a very short time, 5 houses with the adjacent Barns and Stables, were totally destroyed, a great many Cattle being burnt alive, and 2000 Strike of Corn or upwards lost: And that which renders it more remarkable, is, That it began in the day time in the house of *Robert Atkins*, who was a witness at the Tryal of the late Lord *Stafford* the Popish Traytor, some time since Executed. The Undersheriff of the said County of *Stafford* is diligent to collect the Penalties forfeited by Law, on the Estates of Popish Recusants, and 'tis hoped, all other Sheriffs will be so honest and just to his Majesty, as to follow that Example.

London, *April* 22. This day 'twas supposed would have been the Execution of the Prisoners condemned last Sessions, but his Majesty hath graciously been pleased to Pardon them all. This Morning in the Fields a little beyond *Mount-Mill*, in the Parish of *Clarkenwell*, was found the Body of a brave, lusty New-born Infant in a Ditch: 'Tis supposed the wicked and barbarous Woman that was the Mother of it, was delivered of it in the same place the last Night, and there Murdered it. All the Talk of the Town is, about the Tryal of *Fitz-Harris*, but we do not hear any day appointed for it; and some are a little gravell'd to imagine, since he stands Impeached by *All the Commons of England*, how any Jury can take upon them to Try him, whereby they become his *Judges*, when at the same time, they are a part of the Number of his *Accusers*.

Paris, *April* 15. 'Tis said that our King has offer'd the Prince Regent of *Portugal*, what Auxiliary Forces he shall please to desire, to inforce the *Spaniards* to give satisfaction for the Assaults made on the *Isle* of St. *Gabriel*, for which the *Portuguese* Resident has returned his Majesty thanks, and accepted that generous offer, and 'tis added, that his Royal Highness the Prince of *Savoy* has made the like Complement of Assistance to the said Prince Regent, whose Daughter he is Contracted into. But some reports from *Lisbon*, of a Plot there lately discovered, two Spaniards in the Equipage of Noble Men, lately Arrived there, having a design on Murder the Prince, and Reliave his Brother King *Alphonso*, who ever since his removal from the Government, has been confined. The Inhabitants of *Dunkirk* are much disturbed about a new Imposition laid on Merchandizes brought in by Strangers, by the Sieur *Le Boistel* their Intendant, which they alleadge is directly contrary to the privileges granted them by the King, and particularly to his Edict, and have dispatcht a Messenger to Court, to get the same revoaked of the 3. *Decemb.* 1662. It seems these people in that little time they remained under the *English* Government, have Learned so much of their Humours, as to struggle, by all lawful means, for their Liberties.

London, *April* 22. This day about Twelve a Clock at Noon, there broke out on a sudden a Dreadful Fire in *Dyers-Hall*, Scituate in *Thames-street*, near *London-Bridge*, between the Street and the *Thames*, in a very unhappy place for such an accident, as having a *Woodyard* behind it, and adjoyning to close Allies, and small Tenements, Dye-houses, Salters, *&c.* wherein were great quantities of Combustibles: It began in certain Cellars or Vaults under the Hall, wherein were stow'd Pitch, Tar, *&c.* of which 'tis said, a Candle carelesly left, took hold, though others think it might be done by Treachery; however, it Burnt with such Fury, that the whole Hall (a very large and stately Fabrick) is utterly Demolisht: Nor is it to be guessed how far the Devastation might have proceeded, had it not happened in the day time, when there was abundance of help ready, and many Engines, and especially the Blowing up of several small Houses contiguous, whereby the progress of the Flames was stopt, tho not without great damage to the Neighbourhood. It happened that the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and divers of the Aldermen, were abroad a little way out of Town, upon publick Customary business, (his Lordship, by reason of his late Indisposition, having not for some time taken the Air before) but as soon as the Fire was discovered, they were advertized of it, and speedily repaired thither, using all possible diligence to assist towards the Quenching of it, which was at last happily accomplisht.

London Printed, and are to be sold by *Richard Janeway*, 1681.

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